



Alliance Networking events!

Last year we had 12 coffee mornings, they are an informal way for community groups to get together and share information with each other.



This year we've made a few minor changes. We've renamed them Coffee and Cake events and are now in the afternoon.

February's was very popular. 30 people attended, and included representatives from 14 groups. Nexus gave a very informative presentation about the Bridge Card and Buddy system. Everyone enjoyed that and the cake. If you missed the event you can contact Irene Story on 0191 203 3292 at Nexus for more information on how to get a Bridge Card (free) or learn more on the Buddy System. For our April Event see the back page.



Martha and Mary's Coffee Shop. Also space for groups to meet. Parkinson's Society meet 1st Wednesday of each month
Opening times are:
Mon-Fri 10am-2pm
Sat 11am-2pm
212, Chillingham Rd
Heaton 0191 2650329



Useful Emergency numbers:

If there is any danger or risk to life, a crime is in progress or the attendance of the police is urgent, dial **999**.
To report all other crimes or incidents, or for general information and advice, call **03456 043 043** or text **07786 200 814**
For the deaf and hard of hearing, Minicom **01661 820 915** or Text **07786 200 815**



Support from the Link-workers; Carol helped a local resident to completed a Health Trainer job application. She went on to get the job. Congratulations to Jan and well done to Carol for her help

Staffing Changes at Common Ground

Ken Milor, principle support worker with East Area Asylum Seeker Support Group worked his last shift 27th February 09. He worked at Common ground for many years beginning as a volunteer as most people do in the voluntary sector.

He will be greatly missed at the centre by the users, his colleagues, organisations and agencies he worked in partnership with.

The Alliance would like to wish him well for the future and good luck in finding new employment.



Our Work with Groups

- Support individuals to form social interest groups
- Helping to adopt appropriate constitutions for groups
- Finding suitable funding for groups
- Up to date information on the Regeneration of Walker Riverside
- Information Exchange Events Inc. Coffee Mornings & Coffee and Cake Afternoons
- Consultations on behalf of groups

Free Training Provided By Us

The Alliance offered these Training Opportunities FREE to residents, volunteers and workers in the East End of Newcastle.

- Learning about Community Development
- Introduction to Community Development
- Community Learning Champions
- Understanding Finance
- Go For It
- Full Cost Recovery
- **70 people took part & completed this training**

Free Training Delivered by Us

Management Committee Training

Explanation of the roles and responsibilities of what committees are and what they need to do, including opening a bank account.

S.T.E.P.S.

Steps To Excellence and Personal Success

Over 120 people who live or work in the East End of Newcastle have completed this self improvement programme. The ages ranged from 18 to 76 years and from a range of different backgrounds.

Asylum Awareness Sessions

These sessions are for groups to have a more accurate understanding of why people come to this country for help. Sessions are tailored to suit the kind of information needed. Immigration, Law, dispersal, and the skilled benefits individuals bring to the area are covered.



The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress presented participants with their certificates.

A summary of:

The Alliance Evaluation Report

Research was conducted during April and May 2008 by Rob Errington into how successful the Alliance is.

Interviews were conducted with members, trustees, partners, staff, funders and grant recipients. The research found tested our mission statement "To improve the community's role in developing local solutions to local problems".

The report highlights two key strengths of the Alliance: working locally, with local Board members and staff, and a sense of trust and community spirit; and working in partnership with others, through formal and informal networks, consulting people and sharing information.

One interviewee said, "Local people are tackling their own local issues and doing it with results. They are taking the lead... We prioritise local people's needs and issues and hopefully give them a platform to be heard or represented honestly."

Another commented, "You gather that information, keep abreast of it, decipher it and put it back out into the community."

The research found that our unique service is in reaching out to people.

"The Alliance has been able act as voice for smaller community groups and pull people together by using local people who are known and respected. All this hard to reach stuff – I don't go for it. People aren't hard to reach if they are on the right level."

We're very pleased to be providing you with valued support. It's thanks to you that we've been so successful!

[When it was formed in 2004 the Alliance brought together two different networks, the East End Community and Voluntary Sector Forum and HealthWORKS East. The Alliance became an independent charitable company in 2007.]



Linda



Carol



Helen



Sue



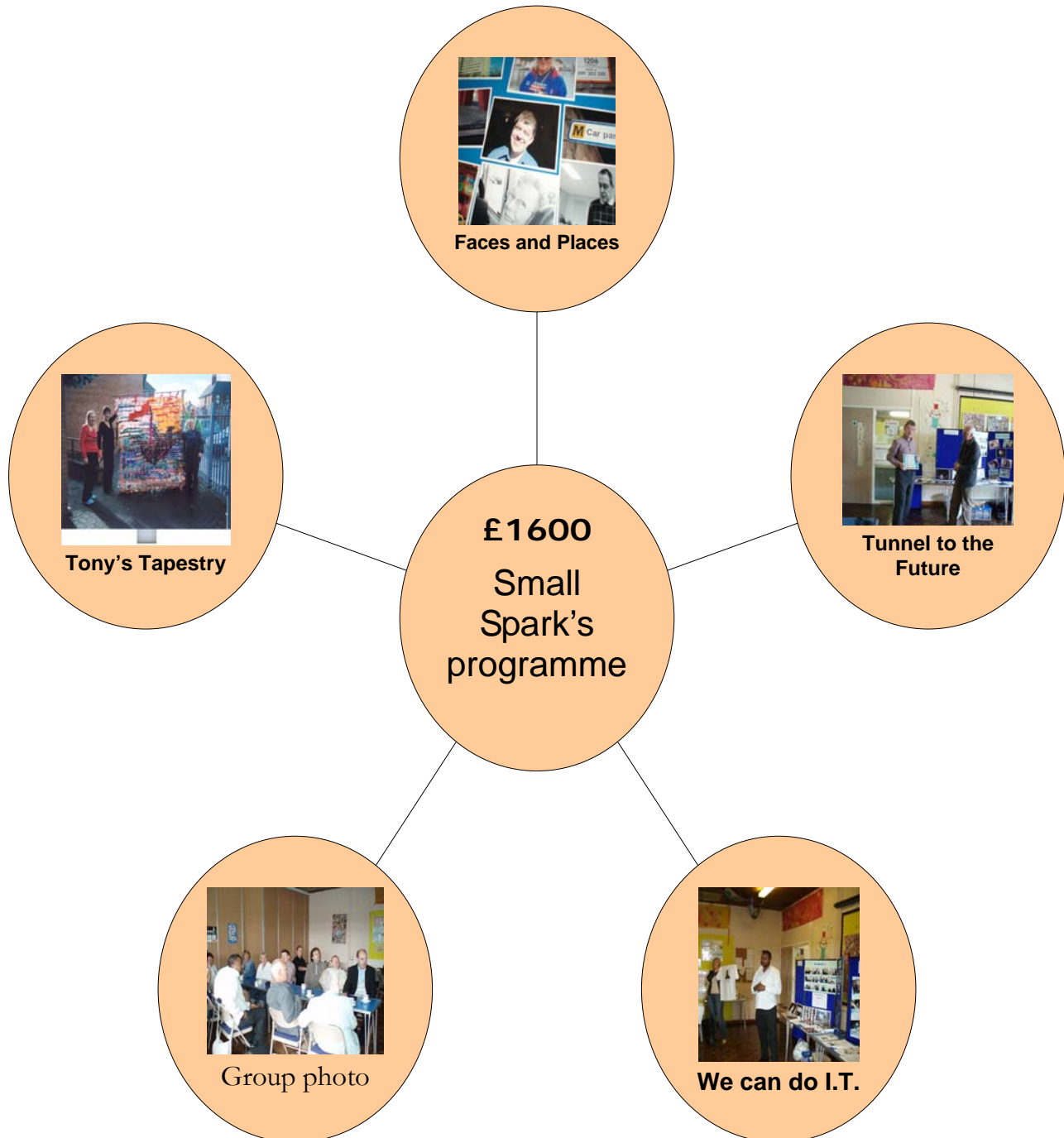
Tania

The Alliance Staff have many qualifications; which include:

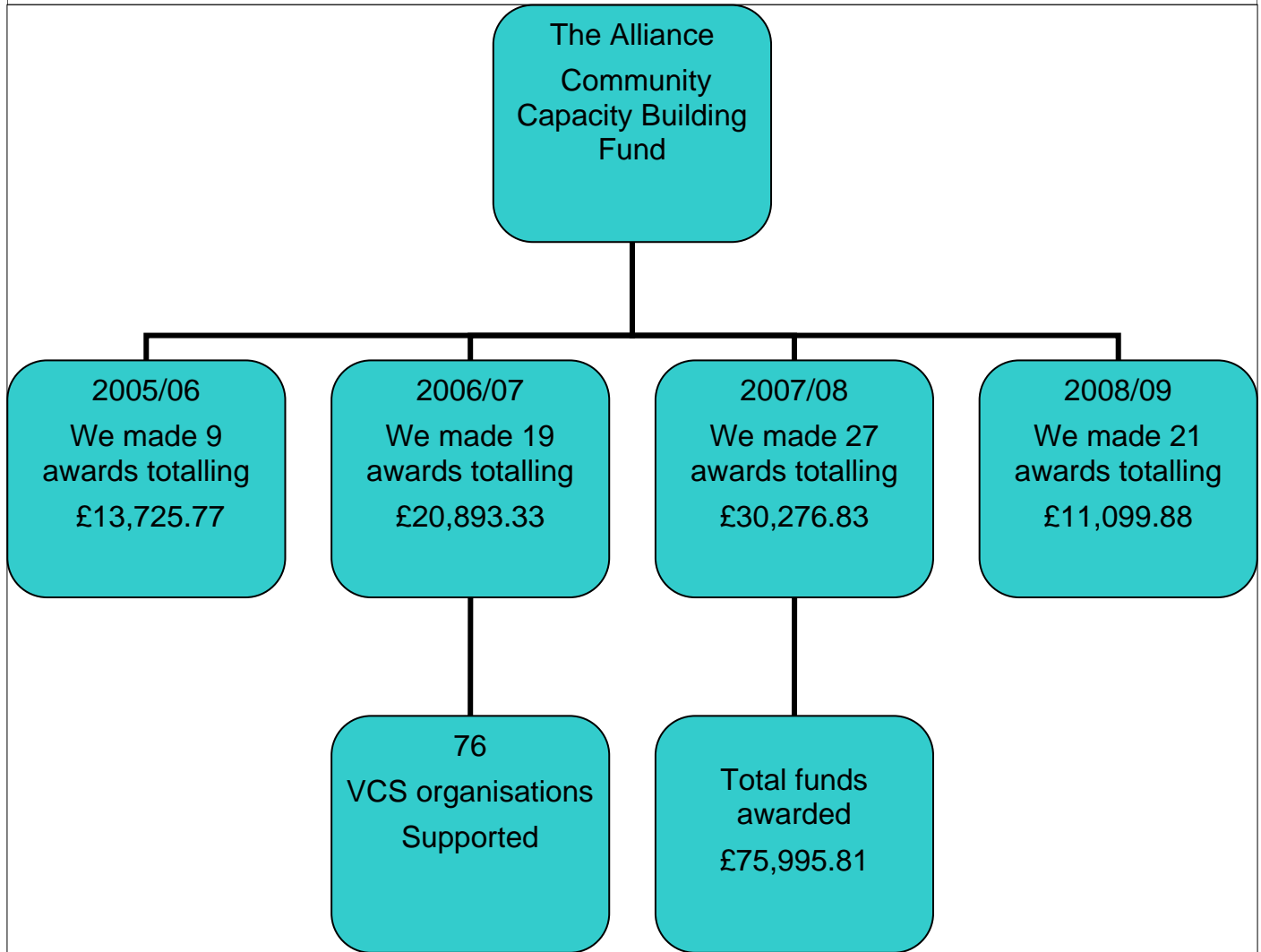
University Certificate in Regeneration/ NVQ Level 2 in Community Work (old standards) /Teaching Certificate /Engagement with Community Degree Management Degree / B.A. Hons./Master of Science / Diploma in Management / Certificate in Education

Small Sparks Programme

In 2006 the East End Community Development Alliance worked in partnership with Newcastle Learning Disabilities Partnership to offer a Small Sparks programme to community groups (the fund was held by the Alliance and distributed in a similar way to the C.C.B.F). The project had to benefit the local community and be complete within 8 weeks, we had 11 applications to the value of £1600, we held a celebration event in April 2007, everyone came along to talk about their project and shared their pictures and experience.



C.C.B.F. Facts and Figures



The Alliance Trustees and Advisory Group sit on the funding panel. They decide who fits the criteria, and award the grants.



Trustees pictured from left to right
 Gladys Lilley—93rd Newcastle Scout Leader
 John Sadler—local Reverend from Churches together
 Peter Kay— Manager—Ouseburn Trust
 Chris Brown—Local Resident
 Tony Woods-Waters— Chief Executive Building Futures East
 Sue Bolam (Chair)—Warden for Margaret Collins Sheltered Accommodation (picture not shown)

To become a trustee or advisory group member: you need to be a Full member of The Alliance; contact us for more information....



Safe Neighbourhoods is a new way of working in Newcastle that is making a real difference to people's lives. We are working together to solve problems and concerns about crime, community safety and anti-social behaviour in your neighbourhood.

S.N.A.P.S. (Safe Neighbourhoods Action and Problem Solving) groups of statutory bodies are now set up in every ward of the city. These groups help deal with crime and anti-social behaviour in your area and work together to agree actions to address local community safety issues.

For further information contact the Community Safety Unit on 0191 277 7832.

Email: safe.neighbourhoods@newcastle.gov.uk. or visit www.safenewcastle.org.uk



Local groups:

A.C.A.N.E. (African Community Association North East) hold a safety group meeting for the Byker community every month. Any issues of concern are raised here for those unable to attend a regular residents group or the local ward committee.

Housing, police (C.P.O.'S) street wardens, ACANE workers and The Alliance attend the meetings to help solve any issues raised. For more information on this and other activities held at the centre ring Gaby or Konomo on 0191 2658110

The Ralph Erskine Society

Local Byker residents formed this Society in 2008. It is dedicated to the work of this well-known Anglo-Swedish architect who master planned the Byker Redevelopment. Residents felt that there was a great opportunity to form an organisation to actively promote Erskine's work. The estate's listing as Grade II* (meaning that it is recognised as one of the most significant post-war housing schemes in the country) has increased attention on the estate and raised issues for the City Council, YHN and English Heritage as well as for residents on how to make it a successful inner city neighbourhood. Until now there has been no resident-led and managed body that specifically gives us an active role in partnership working with these other organisations.

The Society has been organising local events on the estate involving spring bulb planting, environmental maintenance, a lantern making event and is hoping to arrange some outdoor events around the estate over the summer. The main aim of the group is to enable residents to be actively involved in our neighbourhoods and to encourage positive solutions in this unique housing estate. We have resurrected the Byker Phoenix community newsletter and are also planning to develop a website and a series of events for Heritage Open Day in September. If you are interested in keeping informed or have suggestions for events please email:

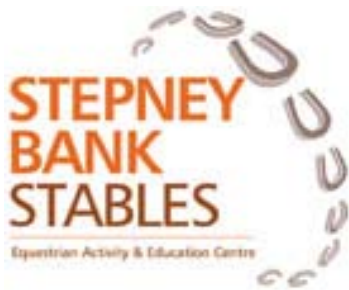
bykercolin@yahoo.co.uk

Carers Centre Newcastle is a dedicated independent, and free information and support service for unpaid carers. Would you like to speak to someone one-to-one about any difficulties you have with your caring role? Are you providing help and support to a relative, friend, partner, child or neighbour who has a disability, a physical or mental illness, is frail, or has alcohol or drug related problems?

For more information contact:

Katie Dodd, Centre Manager,
The Carer Support Team
Carers Centre Newcastle,
6 Saville Place,
Newcastle Upon Tyne,
NE18DQ
Telephone (0191) 260 3030, Fax (0191) 230 1500
www.newcastlecarers.org.uk

Local groups:



Stepney Bank Stables:

We always welcomes new members who would like to take up horse riding. Whether you are thinking about riding for the first time or perhaps you used to ride and would like to pick it up again. Horse riding is a fun and exciting way to stay fit and healthy whilst building confidence and skills.

Stepney Bank Stables offers lessons at all levels from beginner to advanced, for all ages and abilities. We have a wide range of horses and ponies to suit all abilities including our very popular under 5's lessons. Stepney Bank Stables has excellent facilities including an indoor arena, qualified instructors, great prices and a membership scheme. We are open 7 days a week and until 9pm weekdays. For more information call 0191 2615544. Or visit our website

www.stepneybankstables.co.uk

A Special Award:

And the M.B.E. goes to,

Susan Tron, the Manager of Stepney Bank Stables was awarded an M.B.E. in this year's honours list. She was nominated by staff members for her hard work in building the project up from scratch. The charity which started with 2 donkeys is now on 3 sites, one of which is a state of the art lottery funded riding arena, and has already received a Queen's Award in 2003 for its work. Susan said, "I feel proud and humbled but it's not just my name on that M.B.E. A lot of people work very hard to make this project work. We have had a tough year and this is exactly what was needed to give us all a boost!

Congratulations to Susan and the Stepney Banks team from The Alliance

Walker Community Credit Union

Credit unions are a not-for-profit organization and exist to provide a safe, convenient place for members to save money and to get loans and other financial services at reasonable rates.

While for-profit institutions must make profits credit unions don't. Any earnings in excess of operational costs are returned to the members in the form of increased interest on savings, decreased rates on loans or other new and improved services.

Members enjoy the same protection as they would expect from a bank or building society. Because they are managed and run by a volunteer board credit unions can offer attractive returns on savings and low rate loans.

Walker Community Credit Union hold sessions Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the Lightfoot and St. Anthony's of Padua. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer with us please contact Vince Bain's on 07944164020



Coffee & Cake Events:

These are every month and themed on what's happening in the East End. If you would like to highlight what your group or organisation does then we could include it in future events.

Members will be notified by post and e-mail when these are happening

[Our next event; Wednesday 29th April 2pm—4pm at Walker Library](#)

To celebrate the work of The Alliance and to thank it's members for their support. There will be presentations from some of the groups who received grants and how it empowered members of the local community.

The Alliance Web Page:

We can add a brief description of your group/organisation on our Web page (members section).

If you already have a web page would you like to add a link from The Alliance Web page to your own?

We can also highlight an event or training that you are organising or delivering on our events section.

As a member of

The Alliance you are entitled to use the space we have for your group.

This is a free service to all The Alliance Members:

Membership is open to all the V.C.S. working or offering services in the East End of Newcastle

To become a member contact the Alliance or download a form from our Web Page;
To be returned to The Alliance

If you would like to know more about us visit our website,
www.eastendalliance.org.uk, or contact us on telephone
0191 275 9477, fax 0191 224 3961 or email enquiries@eastendalliance.org.uk,
Walker Library, 554 Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2PA.
Limited company by guarantee registered in England No. 6262726
Registered charity No. 1120816

Front page panoramic photo of East Newcastle courtesy of www.monkchester.co.uk

The work of the Alliance is supported by:

